

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 10554 271130Z

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 271036Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4604

INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

S E C R E T BANGKOK 10554

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TH

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION EQUIPMENT FOR BURMA

REF: STATE 132399

1. RE PARAGRAPH 6 REFTEL, THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE TO DEVELOP AN INFORMATION PROGRAM UTILIZING USIS AND OTHER MISSION ELEMENTS TO EXPLAIN THE RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVES OF NARCOTICS AID TO BURMA. WE INTEND TO ADOPT THE LOWEST POSTURE POSSIBLE ON THIS MATTER, BY SPEAKING TO IT ONLY WHEN ASKED. WE WOULD STICK TO THE SIMPLE STATEMENT THAT THIS EQUIPMENT WAS GIVEN TO THE BURMESE SOLELY BECAUSE OF THE NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING PROBLEM IN BURMA.

2. IN LIGHT OF THE MISSION POLICY TO AVOID CONTACTS WITH BURMESE DISSIDENT GROUPS RESIDENT IN THAILAND, WE DO NOT INTEND TO CONTACT ANY OF THESE ELEMENTS TO EXPLAIN THE BURMA AID PROGRAM. PUBLICLY, WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN OUR POSTURE OF NON-INTEREST IN THE POLITICAL OBJECTIVES OF THE VARIOUS GROUPS IN NORTHERN THAILAND AND THE GUB.

3. WE FEEL THAT RTG PUBLICITY CONCERNING NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING BY DISSIDENT GROUPS WOULD HELP SUPPORT OUR NARCOTICS

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RATIONALE FOR ASSISTANCE TO BURMA. WE PLAN TO SUGGEST TO THE

RTG CENTRAL NARCOTICS BOARD THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR PRESS
STORIES TO APPEAR CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION IN NARCOTICS
TRAFFICKING OF THE KACHIN INDEPENDENCE ARMY AND OTHER
DISSIDENT GROUPS.
KINTNER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 JUN 1974
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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